

The OSCILLATOR

Volume 30 Issue 5
May 2007

Oregon Tualatin Valley
Amateur Radio Club

The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club is a special service club related to ARRL: The National Association for Amateur Radio. We seek to advance the Amateur Radio Service through:

- ⇒ Education and Training of new and licensed amateurs
- ⇒ Public Service and Emergency communication
- ⇒ Hobby nets, contests and meetings
- ⇒ Social events

Membership is available to anyone interested in amateur radio. A license is not required.



"BOB'S BARREL" Robert Crocker WN7O

We will meet again at the Hillsboro Elks' Lodge at Orenco, May 9th. This time the seating will be slightly different, along with a microphone, to allow everyone to hear the program. The main complaint about our last meeting was the inability to hear the complete program and the noise from the group behind us. Food service ends at 7:00 pm, so we should not be bothered by Elks' arrivals for dinner. One important point we must observe is to remember to check in at the front entrance. We will have a greeter present to assist in checking.

We will have a SEA-PAC club booth again this year. Of course, we need volunteers to staff the booth. If you have a few minutes available during your time, come by and spell a member. It is a good place to rest and visit. Our booth will help in telling our story and inviting new members. We need your help as much as possible.

Field Day will be held at "Stub" Stewart State Park this year. The Park is new and we will be among the first to use it. JD Fort is interfacing with park management to insure that we will have an excellent Field Day experience.

See Barrel, Page 3

How Does Field Day At 1121 Feet Sound?



"Stub" Stewart State Park is the first new Oregon State Park in thirty years. Its designed to be a show-place -- with camping, group sites, hiking, and views like no other.

JD Fort K7JDF has been working with State Parks and Camp Management to secure our use of this great site for Field Day June 23-24. He will give a brief report at our May 9th meeting and offer a program on Field Day at the June 13th meeting.

Here is our station site:



More pictures in the June issue of THE OSCILLATOR.

CLUB MEETING

WEDNESDAY, May 9th

OTVARC is affiliated with ARRL: The National Association for Amateur Radio and is a *Special Service Club*. We meet on the second Wednesday of each month. Our April 11th meeting will be held at **The Hillsboro Elks' Lodge, 21865 NW Quatama Rd, Hillsboro**, beginning at 7:00 pm.

Dale Hunt WB6BYU will present a program on the International RadioSport Games in the US this year.

The Hillsboro Elks' have food available if you'd like to come before 7:00 pm and eat off their buffet or menu.

Happy May Birthday

1	Don Branda	N7DDK
1	Jim Graffy	AE7W
3	Len Lardieri	KE7JLX
5	Richard Wiehrdt	WA7BND
6	George Bates	K7GWB
8	Robbin Heath	KD7MRU
16	Willy Lund	KC7ICQ
18	Wally Boleen	KC7TB
19	Jim Shires	KD7LDR
23	Kevin Curry	KA7KYQ
23	Patricia Rickman	N7UUD
24	Stephen Coan	KA7MOW
25	Donald Copeland	W7DPV
26	Sue Dauntless	KB7RHH
26	Richard Morgan	KD7GIE
28	Barry Carlson	W7BLC
30	Joel Simmons	AD7IS

Have we missed your birthday?
Likely we do not have your correct date in our database.
Send updates and corrections to
otvarc@gmail.com

GENERAL CLASS UPDATE COMPLETED

Our first venture in sometime into assisting those who wish to upgrade from their Technician Class license to General Class is complete. Seven members of the club undertook the ten-and-a-half hour preparation course and took their General Class exams on May 5th. All were successful.

Our congratulations to:

Kristin Webb-Tomson K7KWT

Mel Sutton KB7PVW

Linda Sutton KC7YTD

Gavin Silaski KC7UIL

Russ Deloy Graham KD7BSA

Naomi Ballard KD7JZW

Chris Arnesen KU7PDX

The club sponsored the series at Ronler Acres Fire Station in Hillsboro. Thanks to Will Sheffield N7THL; Ron O'Connor KD7VIK; Carl Clawson WS7L, and Everett Curry W6ABM for serving as teachers for the class.

We expect to repeat this series again in late summer or fall. If you would like to be included, drop an email to otvarc@gmail.com to be notified when it will take place.

Steve Sanders KE7JSS Appointed ARES PIO

Steve Sanders KE7JSS has been appointed by Washington County ARES to serve as Public Information Officer. The PIO interfaces with the media and general public to provide accurate information on the mission of ARES, its programs, and accomplishments. Steve's appointment by Washington County Emergency Coordinator Ben Johnson N7OGM has been confirmed by Oregon Section Public Information Coordinator Everett Curry W6ABM and Section Manager Bonnie Altus AB7ZQ.

Congratulations and thanks to Steve for his service.



May opens our "drier" season.
Protect your lips with:

OREGON TRAIL LIP BALM

Created by: Maureen O'Rourke KA7LAP
mcorourke@netzero.com

Available at Hillsboro and Beaverton Pharmacies

146.960 MHz Repeater By Shoutcast

The club's 146.960 MHz Repeater is heard via the Internet at www.shoutcast.com. Search for W7OTV. The stream is up 24/7 at 48 kbps with a max of 32 listeners. Listening only, no transmit capability.

16 MAR 07-16 APR 07

	Geographic location	Visitors	Play duration
1	United States	40	7:23:30
2	Germany	10	2:33:23
3	United Kingdom	2	0:02:47
4	Slovenia	2	0:05:40
5	Switzerland	2	0:22:38
6	France	2	0:04:52
7	Sweden	1	0:04:34
8	Australia	1	0:10:18
9	Brazil	1	0:01:15
10	Mexico	1	0:02:51
11	Kuwait	1	16:37:23
12	Philippines	1	0:02:30
13	Austria	1	0:05:13
14	Norway	1	0:35:12
Total		66	1d 04:12:06

The ham in Kuwait loves us!

73. Frank, K2NCC@arrl.net

Your 2007 Club Roster is available for use at:

<http://tinyurl.com/296rdb>

This URL takes you to a spread sheet with roster information. It will be kept current. Your role in the freshness of the information is to notify the club when something changes.

Thanks to those who verified information for the roster.

LUNCH BUNCH

There will be no
May Lunch Bunch
Due to Memorial Weekend.
See you at SEA-PAC

For More Information
call KC7YTD Linda
503.246.8879

SCHOLARSHIP DRAWING



The Chuck Mickley Memorial Scholarship is offered to a student who is a licensed amateur radio operator. The club sponsors this \$1,000.00 scholarship through its fund raising activities each year (Sea-Pac, drawings, etc.).

This year, you'll have a chance to put a new Yaesu FT-2800M to work if your number is selected. Tickets will be \$1.00 each and twelve for \$10.00. The drawing will take place at SEA-PAC '07 on Sunday, June 3rd in Seaside. You do not have to be present to win. This rig was donated by a member for this fund raiser.

Who will take this beauty home?

Barrel, from Page 1

JD plans to be at our meeting to give an update. Mark your calendar for June 23-24 and participate. Come even if it is for a short time. A number of activities planned.

Looking forward to seeing everyone this Wednesday evening.

73,

Robert Crocker/WN7O

OTVARC ADDRESS:
880 NE 25th Ave Ste 2-160
Hillsboro OR 97124-6258

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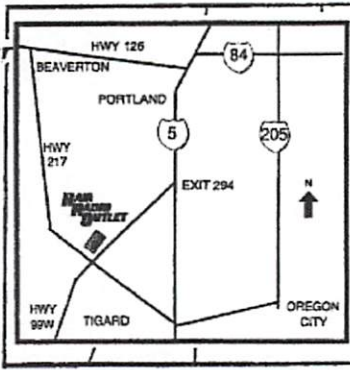
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RADIO SPORT GAMES

The Friendship Amateur Radio Society (FARS) will host the Friendship Radio Sport Games this coming August in the southeastern USA. The last event was held in 2004 in Russia. We will have visiting competitors from our Sister Cities of Khabarovsk, Russia; Niigata, Japan; and Victoria, BC.

Dale Hunt WB6BYU who coordinated the games when they were held in Portland in 1999 will be actively seeking participants for this year's games. Dale, a resident of Yamhill County, is active in Oregon Section as a technical and direction-finding consultant.

Dale will present a program for OTVARC on Wednesday, May 9th.



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ARRL Withdraws Bandwidth Proposal

The ARRL has asked the FCC to allow withdrawal of RM-11306, its proposal to regulate by bandwidth rather than mode. There were more than one thousand comments filed with the FCC on the proposal. They ran largely in opposition to the ARRL proposal. The League has not indicated when or if they will refile at a later time.

Amateur Radio Newsline explained the proposal this way: "No longer would there be the traditional band segments dedicated to a given mode or modes like CW and SSB. Instead, anyone could operate anywhere as long as his or her signal did not exceed a specific bandwidth for a particular spectral parcel. This meant that in a given band one might see a legacy mode such as SSB mixed with all sorts of emerging digital modes that have yet to be devised. This change in itself was one that a lot of folks seemed to have a problem understanding or simply opposed because they oppose any sort of change."

Automated digital messaging was another often mentioned objection. Emergency communications involved amateurs have pressed for development of an automated network to maintain amateur radio's position as a support organization. Opponents fear automated stations would lead to a massive interference.

Solar Cycle 24

If you have been waiting for improved D X conditions on the High Frequency bands, you are going to have to be patient a bit longer. So says the NOAA Space Environment Center which led a prediction panel that issued the forecast at its annual Space Weather Workshop in Boulder, Colorado. Expected to start last fall, the delayed onset of Solar Cycle 24 has stymied the panel. It also left them evenly split on whether a weak or strong period of solar storms lies ahead, but neither group predicts a record-breaker.

One disagreement among the current panel members centers on the importance of magnetic fields around the sun's poles as the previous cycle decays. End-cycle polar fields are the bedrock of the approach predicting a weak Cycle 24. The strong-cycle forecasters place more importance on other precursors extending over a several-cycle history. Another clue will be whether Cycle 24 sunspots appear by mid 2008. If not, the strong-cycle group might change its forecast.

From Amateur Radio Newsline

Who Are We?

We are one hundred-seventy-six strong. We live in six states, but the majority of us live within Washington County. Most of us are male, but eighteen percent of us are female, and this percentage has more than doubled in the last five years. Between one-quarter and one-third of us on average attend our monthly meeting. Twenty percent of us did not attend a monthly club meeting in 2006. Yet, even non-attenders are connected through other activities and our monthly journal, The OSCILLATOR.

Two of our members are 88 years old this year, fourteen percent of us are in our 80s. Another fourteen percent are at the other end of our age range: Three percent in our 20s, two percent in our 30s, and nine percent in our 40s. Nearly half of us are in our 50s and 60s (forty-eight percent). About a quarter of us are in our 70s. Our average age has been decreasing over the past five years as new members join us.

We are interested in social events, community service, and support of emergency communications and general purpose repeaters. We have a history of providing leadership to Oregon Section and the Northwestern Division. That history continues today with several of our members serving Oregon Section in appointed roles.

One hundred seventy-three of us are licensed amateur radio operators. Thirty-one percent of us hold the Extra Class License, with another 9 percent holding an Advanced Class License. The second highest number in our club are General Class licensees (thirty percent) after seven recently upgraded in a club-sponsored series. Yet, we have twenty-eight percent holding the Technician Class or Technician Plus CW license.

As we approach our thirtieth anniversary as a club, we look forward to the future of our venture as a Club.

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Contest Group - 7th Call Area QSO Party

Saturday, May 5th was a busy day for quite a number of our OTVARC members. The morning started with the final General Class upgrade session, coordinated by Everett Curry W6ABM followed by the regular VE testing session with Carl Clawson WS7L and his team of VEC's. By mid-afternoon our club had seven newly-minted General Class operators.

At the same time the OTVARC Contest Group was preparing to operate using club call sign W7OTV in the second annual 7th Call Area QSO Party. The "7QP" contest runs for 18-hours, with 7-land stations working everybody. Stations outside the 7th call area work 7's with county multiplier credits. If all counties are activated, it would be possible to work 259 different geographic divisions.

The contest organizers, (Central Oregon DX Club) picked an interesting weekend for the event. Several other contests were on the air as well, including:

- Indiana state QSO party.
- New England states QSO party.
- ARI International DX contest.

By the end of the day W7OTV operators had worked stations in all three of these contests as well as 7QP.

Because several of our regular contest group members were also involved with the class and the VE session, we didn't go on the air until 12:00 noon, even though the contest started at 6:00 AM. With the late start we set out to operate a laid back event, with great success! As people dropped by during the afternoon, socializing was the main activity at times, with operating in second place.

Most activity was on 20-meters during the day, with a few contacts on 40 as well. Several Italian stations were heard and two were added to the log. After a relaxing barbecue dinner we settled down and concentrated on 40-meters for a while to add to our multipliers. A brief check back on 20-meters added to our totals and netted two more surprise DX contacts, one with New Zealand, (4:30 PM in their afternoon) and the other with Estonia, where it was approximately 7:30 AM, their time.

W7OTV stayed on the air until 10:00 PM with the following results in the log:

- 60 contacts total.
- 19 states worked.
- 22 contest multipliers.
- 4 DX countries worked.
- 2,640 contest points.
- 4 different contests worked.

HAMFESTS & CONVENTIONS

1 - 3 June 2007

SEA-PAC

Northwestern Division Convention

www.seapac.org
Talk-In: 146.660
C. Wayne Schuler, AI9Q
16414 NE 21st Avenue
Vancouver, WA 98684
Phone: 360-892-5580
Fax: 360-892-5580
Email: ai9q@arrl.net

21 July 2007

Bandon Hamfest

Coos County Radio Club
Talk-In: 146.61 (no tone); & 145.19 (PL 146.2)
Contact: Ron Oliver, W7VU
2041 King Lane
Myrtle Point, OR 97458
541-572-5546
w7vu@arrl.net

28—30 Sep 2007

Pacific Northwest VHF+ Conference

Bend Oregon
Shilo Inn Suites Hotel
<http://www.pnwvhfs.org>

To everyone who couldn't make it over on Saturday for the contest, we missed you and hope to see you next time. For the folks that did come by, thanks for your support. Without you we wouldn't have the successful special interest group that we do.

Ron O'Connor - KD7VIK
(OTVARC Contest Group Coordinator)

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